



New Mexico Agricultural
Statistics Service

Weekly Ag Update

Issue 50-12

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INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE

Crop Weather

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Cattle on Feed

Available on internet at: www.nass.usda.gov/nm OR by e-mail: (call 1-800-530-8810 for information)

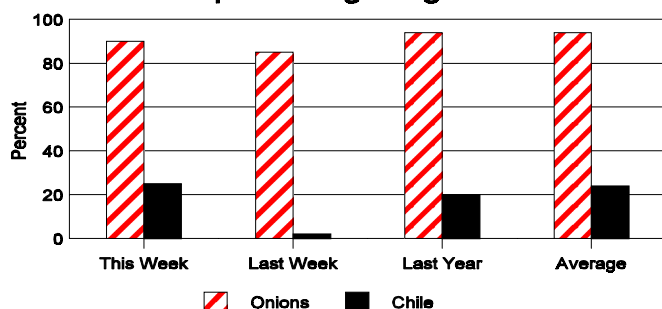
CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING MARCH 19, 2000

NEW MEXICO: Farmers reported an average 6.5 days suitable for field work. Onion and chile planting continued in the southern areas of the State. Onion planting was 90% completed and was in mostly good to excellent condition. Chile planting was 25% completed. Lettuce was in mostly good to excellent condition. Irrigated wheat was in mostly fair good condition, while the dryland wheat continued in mostly poor to very poor condition. High winds caused some crop loss and damage to others. Cattle were reported in poor to good condition, while sheep were in mostly poor to fair condition. Pasture and range feed conditions deteriorated and were reported at 15% very poor 30% poor, 50% fair, and 5% good. There is some supplemental feeding of livestock and stock water supplies are low as the dry weather persists across the State.

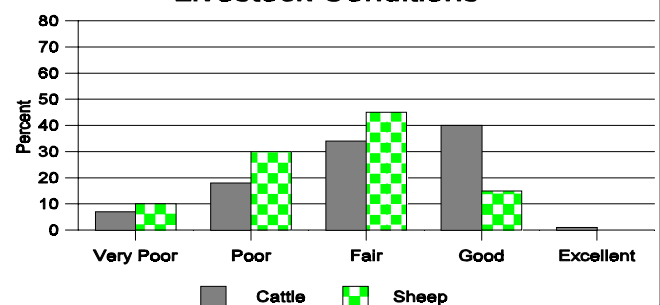
CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
PLANTED	Onions	90	85	94	94
	Chile	25	2	20	24

Crop Planting Progress



Livestock Conditions

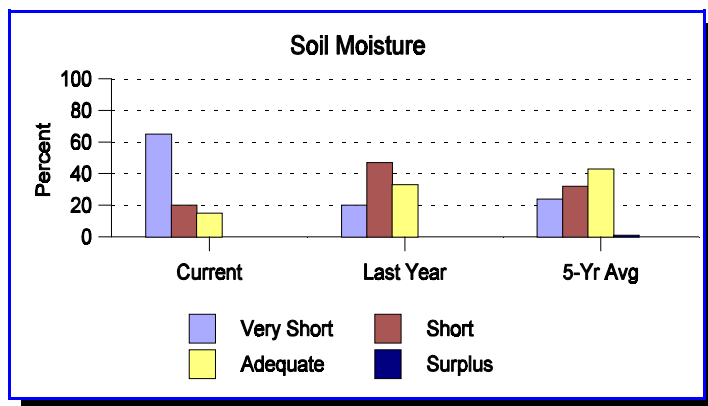


CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	5	8	60	20	7
Chile	--	--	50	50	--
Dry Wheat	50	32	17	1	--
Irrigated Wheat	4	10	70	15	1
Lettuce	--	5	10	25	60
Onions	--	--	15	15	70
Cattle	7	18	34	40	1
Sheep	10	30	45	15	--

SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	75	12	13	---
Northeast	54	33	13	---
Southwest	85	15	---	---
Southeast	70	7	23	---
State	65	20	15	---
State-Last Year	20	47	33	---
State-5-Yr Avg.	24	32	43	1



WEATHER SUMMARY

Temperatures for the week were within a few degrees of normal at most places, and the statewide average was one degree above normal. Precipitation was spotty and light. About 40 percent of the reporting locations reported some measurable precipitation, but most totals were less than one quarter of an inch. Totals exceeding one quarter inch were in the north, with Des Moines/Capulin (.55"), Raton (.48"), and Red River (.48") all managing to collect around half an inch of moisture.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS MARCH 13-19, 2000

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	03/13 03/19	03/01 03/19	Normal Mar	01/01 03/19	Normal Jan-Mar
Carlsbad	55.9	83	26	0.02	0.02	0.30	0.11	1.00
Hobbs	52.0	82	25	T	0.00	0.56	0.00	1.50
Roswell	50.1	79	19	T	0.00	0.33	0.00	1.14
Clayton	41.0	63	19	0.05	1.39	0.55	1.73	1.10
Clovis	47.6	75	22	T	0.38	0.59	0.40	1.49
Roy	43.8	66	26	0.00	0.00	0.55	0.00	1.32
Tucumcari	48.8	74	30	0.00	0.17	0.40	0.17	1.13
Chama	35.9	56	14	0.08	0.47	1.99	3.17	5.34
Johnson Ranch	37.4	61	12	0.00	0.75	0.74	1.21	1.98
Capulin	37.4	63	11	0.55	0.99	0.89	1.27	1.85
Las Vegas	43.8	67	17	0.16	0.32	0.56	0.45	1.27
Los Alamos	39.4	59	16	0.03	0.13	1.22	0.44	2.88
Raton	36.9	63	13	0.48	1.30	0.83	1.34	1.84
Santa Fe	40.4	65	14	0.08	0.41	0.74	0.67	2.06
Red River	30.0	53	8	0.48	1.23	1.78	3.67	4.07
Farmington	42.4	64	21	T	0.64	0.81	1.68	1.97
Gallup	38.0	67	7	0.02	0.46	1.05	1.25	2.59
Grants	37.6	65	5	0.00	0.20	0.50	0.34	1.50
Silver City	49.0	70	22	0.00	0.28	0.96	0.28	3.37
Quemado	37.4	63	8	0.00	0.47	0.63	0.91	1.69
Albuquerque	47.8	69	23	T	0.24	0.54	0.80	1.44
Carrizozo	45.6	72	15	0.00	0.18	0.57	0.18	1.74
Gran Quivera	46.1	68	19	0.08	0.21	0.72	0.29	2.24
Moriarty	40.6	71	6	0.02	0.02	0.53	0.10	1.44
Ruidoso	40.1	65	13	0.00	0.11	1.33	0.21	3.61
Socorro	48.1	79	18	0.00	0.13	0.27	0.17	1.05
Alamogordo	51.4	75	25	0.00	0.02	0.46	0.02	1.67
Animas	58.1	77	33	0.00	0.00	0.47	0.00	1.66
Deming	55.5	78	32	0.00	0.13	0.34	0.16	1.36
T or C	53.9	80	29	0.00	0.08	0.34	0.08	1.18
Las Cruces	54.3	80	31	0.00	0.00	0.22	0.00	1.05

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

MILK PRODUCTION

NEW MEXICO: Milk production in New Mexico during February totaled 412 million pounds, up 14 percent from production in February 1999. Adjusting production due to the extra day during leap year, production was up 11 percent on a per day basis.

The average number of milk cows, at 238,000 head, was up 15,000 head from last February. Milk production per cow averaged 1,730 pounds per cow, compared to 1,780 pounds per cow in January and 1,615 pounds per cow one year earlier. New Mexico ranked 11th in number of cows, 3rd in milk per cow and 10th in milk production.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the 20 major States during February totaled 11.7 billion pounds, up 8.2 percent from production in these same States in February 1999. However, adjusting production for the additional day due to the leap year causes February milk production to be up 4.5 percent on a per day basis. January revised production, at 12.3 billion pounds was up 4.9 percent from January 1999. The January revision represented an increase of 0.2 percent or 24 million pounds from last months preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,505 pounds for February, 101 pounds above February 1999 without adjusting for the extra day.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.77 million head, 72,000 head more than February 1999 and 3,000 head more than January 2000.

Milk Cows and Production: January 2000^{1/} and February 1999-2000

State	Milk Cows ^{2/}			Milk per Cow ^{3/}			Milk Production ^{3/}		
	2/99	1/00	2/00	2/99	1/00	2/00	2/99	1/00	2/00
	-----1,000 Head-----			-----Pounds-----			-----Million Pounds-----		
AZ	132	137	137	1,835	1,965	1,935	242	269	265
CA	1,447	1,492	1,496	1,555	1,815	1,710	2,250	2,708	2,558
FL	158	156	157	1,365	1,440	1,425	216	225	224
ID	306	332	332	1,490	1,730	1,620	456	574	538
IL	125	120	120	1,310	1,500	1,480	164	180	178
IN	136	139	141	1,300	1,425	1,380	177	198	195
IA	219	215	215	1,380	1,555	1,500	302	334	323
KY	135	130	130	985	1,130	1,070	133	147	139
MI	292	299	298	1,405	1,600	1,510	410	478	450
MN	545	540	540	1,385	1,545	1,475	755	834	797
MO	162	158	157	1,140	1,240	1,220	185	196	192
NM	223	237	238	1,615	1,780	1,730	360	422	412
NY	702	700	700	1,320	1,450	1,370	927	1,015	959
OH	260	259	259	1,310	1,470	1,400	341	381	363
PA	615	617	617	1,375	1,520	1,475	846	938	910
TX	341	350	350	1,430	1,500	1,470	488	525	515
VT	162	160	159	1,290	1,485	1,365	209	238	217
VA	122	120	120	1,205	1,425	1,330	147	171	160
WA	248	246	246	1,695	1,900	1,785	420	467	439
WI	1,366	1,358	1,356	1,300	1,440	1,370	1,776	1,956	1,858
20 STS	7,696	7,765	7,768	1,404	1,578	1,505	10,804	12,256	11,692

1/ Revised. 2/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

CATTLE ON FEED

NEW MEXICO: Cattle and calves on feed March 1 for the slaughter market in New Mexico totaled 105,000 head, 8,000 head less than a month earlier and 2,000 less than a year earlier. Placements of cattle and calves on feed during February totaled 10,000 head, the same as in January and 2,000 above last year. Marketings of fed cattle were 15,000 head in February, an increase of 2,000 head from marketings in January, and 2,000 more than in February 1999.

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.33 million head on March 1, 2000. The inventory was up 9 percent from the 10.42 million head on March 1, 1999 and 9 percent above March 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.88 million, 4 percent above 1999 and 26 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.80 million. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 2.05 million, 12 percent above 1999 and 11 percent above 1998. Other disappearance totaled 78,000 during February, 20 percent above 1999 and 13 percent above 1998.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}

	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance ^{2/}		
	3/1/99	2/1/00	3/1/00	-----DURING-----								
				2/99	1/00	2/00	2/99	1/00	2/00	2/99	1/00	2/00
	-----1,000 Head-----											
AZ	203	275	275	27	29	27	25	24	24	1	2	3
CA	385	415	405	45	57	50	40	50	52	5	7	8
CO	1,130	1,200	1,180	235	290	250	240	260	265	5	10	5
ID	275	300	305	57	66	70	45	70	57	7	6	8
IA	360	385	375	56	60	39	45	48	48	1	2	1
KS	2,030	2,340	2,320	390	520	420	380	480	430	10	10	10
NE	2,160	2,370	2,310	410	500	390	390	420	440	10	10	10
NM	107	113	105	8	10	10	13	13	15	1	0	3
OK	365	*420	400	54	*62	54	71	67	69	3	5	5
SD	184	200	200	33	38	37	32	30	36	1	2	1
TX	2,610	2,900	2,830	400	475	430	440	465	490	10	10	10
WA	181	211	210	43	45	50	51	59	45	6	3	6
Oth Sts	430	445	415	50	64	53	60	62	75	5	2	8
US	10,420	*11,574	11,330	1,808	*2,616	1,880	1,832	2,048	2,046	65	69	78

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.